

THE DURANT WEEKLY NEWS

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HELD FOR MURDER AS RESULT OF BLOW STRUCK

Robert Bell Dead From Blow On
Head A Month Ago.

Robert Bell, aged 18, living in the white community, died at Sherman Hospital Monday, supposedly as a result of a blow received on the head March 10. As a result of the blow, John Glenn, aged 17, living near Bokchito, who is to have struck the blow, is under arrest and may face a murder charge.

Following the accident, Bell was taken to the Durant Hospital, and complications seemed to be setting up. He was released and later taken to Sherman Hospital where he was also released and went home. His condition grew worse and he was taken back to Sherman hospital where he died.

Glenn was arrested Tuesday morning and brought to Durant. According to his statement to Assistant County Attorney Boner, Robert Bell was two full boys, Lee and Broney, and he to his house March 10 and asked him to attend an exhibition at the school house. He told him he did not want to go, but they went and all three, he said, grabbed him and carried him out of the house. He declared he thought they wanted to "thrash him," and when he got one arm loose, he picked up a singletree lying on the ground and struck Robert Bell over the head with it.

He said the boys then released their hands on him and went away. Robert and Lee Fultz going one direction and Broney Fultz going another. He declared Bell was walking without any serious injury when he went out of sight.

The statements of the Fultz boys are not being secured yet, so it is known how their stories will agree with the one told by the boy, who is to be charged with the slaying of the playmate. The statement of the physicians at the hospital have not been obtained yet as to the complications which caused Bell's death.

If it is determined that Glenn's age is more than fifteen, he will be tried for a Justice of the Peace, if he is under fifteen, he will be tried in a county court, acting as Juvenile court.

It was said at the County Attorney's office later that information could be filed against Glenn charging him with murder and that an examining trial would be held before county Judge Finney.

UT CRIMINALS IN PRISON AND THEN KEEP THEM THERE

Crime experts from many cities are holding a clinic in Chicago to discover why, in some communities, the murder rate continues upward while the number of convictions of criminals goes down. Many opinions are advanced but the experts listened with closest attention to Police Commissioner James W. Inches of Detroit, who, with full co-operation of city officials and the courts, has reduced crime in that city 58 per cent in one year.

Commissioner Inches' solution seemed to amaze some of the criminologists. He said, simply, that the way to control crime was to put criminals in prison and keep them there. To do this, he added, it was necessary for politicians to keep their hands off police activity against influential criminals, and for the courts to be empowered to do business in the spot without getting so tangled up with red tape.

There is more than that to contend with in Oklahoma. Almost anybody sentenced to a prison term can get a parole sooner or later, and a parole may become a pardon in effect if the paroled criminal behaves himself. Just so long as grievous crimes are given slight or no punishment, just so long will crime be common.

WALDEN ELECTED REPUBLICAN COUNTY CHAIRMAN SATURDAY

In spite of rainy and stormy weather the Republican county convention was held here last Saturday, and organization perfected, as follows: County chairman, J. C. Walden; vice chairman, Mrs. H. D. Pearson; Caddo; secretary, Alma Butler.

Evidences of factionalism were manifest at the meeting and have been since that day, for the News has heard rumblings. The News is informed that out of 200 delegates to which the various precincts were entitled, only 68 were in attendance at the convention, and that only three "country" precincts out of Durant were represented.

MANY TAKING EXAMINATIONS

The State Eighth Grade examinations are being held Thursday and Friday of this week at various points over the county. It is estimated that fully six-hundred pupils are taking them. Passing grades entitle pupils to Eighth Grade diplomas.

GOLDEN'S FATE IN THE JURY'S HANDS

TRIAL ATTRACTED MORE INTEREST
THAN ANY OTHER
CASE EVER TRIED IN BRYAN
COUNTY DISTRICT COURT.

As the News goes to press, Thursday afternoon, the fate of Mordecai Golden, slayer of Tom Craghead, charged with murder is in the hands of the jury. The arguments in the case were concluded just before noon Thursday and the jury went into deliberation, after the trial of probably the hardest fought criminal case in the history of this county.

During the trial of the case, there was hardly standing room left in the corridors of the third floor of the court house. Numerous people, including numerous Durant women, went early each morning to the court room, to be sure of getting a seat, and stayed right there all through the day, to hear the testimony. Scores of people from Caddo, the scene of the tragedy, were here daily for the trial.

There was a mighty array of legal talent in the case. Defending the accused were Utterback & MacDonald and Hatchett and Semple. Prosecuting the case were County Attorney Phillips, Assistant Williams, McPherrin & Cochran, and Hayes & McIntosh.

Arguments were commenced Wednesday morning, lasted all that day, until 10:30 Wednesday night and until noon Thursday. The attorneys on both sides pleaded before the jury in the following order. McPherrin for the State, MacDonald for the defense, Williams for the State, Semple for the defense, Phillips for the State, Utterback for the defense, McIntosh for the State, J. M. Hatchett for the defense.

The charge of the court to the jury is too long to be printed in these columns. Under the charge, the jury may either find the defendant guilty of murder or manslaughter in the first degree, or acquit him, depending upon the judgment of the evidence in the case and facts established by the testimony.

In view of the great interest that has been manifested in the trial we have made arrangements to give our readers a brief authentic synopsis of the leading facts as brought out in the trial, giving them as nearly in a chronological order as possible, and confining our selves to the material parts thereof.

At the time of the tragedy Mordecai Golden and his wife, Sadie Golden were living with his father-in-law, D. B. Williams of Caddo, but Mr. Golden was working for his brother-in-law, Pink Williams, in the furniture business in Durant.

On the day of the killing, May 16, 1921, Mr. Williams passed through Durant on his way home from Caddo, seeing Mr. Golden while here; that evening Mr. Williams got his mail at Caddo and among it was the so-called anonymous letter addressed to Sadie (Williams) Golden, that he took it home and gave it to Mrs. Golden. This letter unsigned, read as follows:

May 16, 1921.

Mrs. Sadie (Williams) Golden:

I have long admired you although I was never with you yet you know me well and so do I you and I am lonesome have a home but am by myself now. So if you wish to have a good time for one night only meet me in front of Methodist Church tonight at nine o'clock sharp and go home with me and spend the night and I will take good care of you. I can not tell you my name but you was almost raised with me and I am no stranger to you. If you can not come or you do not wish a good time tear or burn this up and think no more about it.

Loving Yours.

That thereupon Mr. Williams endeavored to phone Mr. Golden, but not reaching him, talked to his son, Pink; that Pink hunted up Mr. Golden, told him that his father-in-law requested that he come up to Caddo at once, that he asked Pink what the trouble was and that he told him that his father said he could not tell him over the phone, that thereupon Pink made up a "code" consisting of the figures 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and the letters A and B which Mr. Golden was to deliver to Mr. Williams and Mr. Williams was then to call up Pink and tell him what the trouble was, using the figures to denote different members of the family, and the letter "A" to mean "bad" and the letter "B" to mean "very bad." That Golden immediately went to Caddo in Pink Williams' truck, arriving there sometime about nine o'clock, that he was shown the letter and that he thereupon procured a gun and with Mrs. Golden went out in town to find the author of the letter, if possible; that they passed the Methodist church, and that Mr. Golden then sent Mrs. Golden down town while he remained up near the inter-

A BIG SHOWING OF OIL IN SOWELL WELL NEAR DURANT

Large Quantities of Oil and Gas
Coming From Test Well

The report comes in this morning that there is a splendid showing of oil in the Sowell test well on the Rube Beal farm three miles west of Durant, and that the driller and management of the test are hopeful of getting a paying well shortly.

Rumors of varied nature have come in this morning, some of them doubtless overdrawn, but all reports agree on one point and that is that there is a big showing of oil, and at a depth that will probably make a paying well of say 100 barrels production per day.

Interest is running pretty high in the territory but there is little excitement. Unleased land cannot be procured and we have heard of no leases in the neighborhood being offered for sale.

DURANT WINS AN APPEAL AFFECTING TAX PENALTIES

The section of the last state session laws, providing that delinquent tax penalties in cities must be turned over to the cities by the county treasurer for use in street repairing, was declared constitutional by the supreme court Tuesday. The question before the court is the result of an appeal taken by the city of Durant when the Bryan county district court refused a writ of mandamus, ordering the county treasurer to turn over \$118.80 to the city.

CADDO HAS ANOTHER VERY SUCCESSFUL TRADES DAY

Caddo held another very successful trades day Wednesday of this week, and so many people were on the streets that the town looked like a circus day. There were quite a number of exhibits of live stock in evidence and some splendid animals were shown. A lot of five and ten dollar prizes were given away, the aggregate being \$100 and the drawing attracted a great deal of interest.

section of Manning Avenue, on which the church was situated, and Buffalo street, the main street of Caddo; that Mrs. Golden went down to within a few feet of Craghead's garage, turned around and rejoined her husband under the shade of a tree near which Mr. Golden had been standing; that she then again walked down the street, passed the garage and crossed the street and retraced the route west on the south side of Buffalo street that she and her husband then went down Manning avenue towards the church. When they first left the Williams home on west Russell street, the street running south of the Methodist church, Mr. Golden walked on the north side of the street and Mrs. Golden on the south side; that as Mrs. Golden approached the Baptist church, just a block west and on the other side of the Methodist church, she passed some boys, that immediately after she passed these boys Mr. Golden crossed the street from the north to the south and joined Mrs. Golden; that Mrs. Golden then left him and walked on ahead; that one of these boys then asked Mr. Golden to go to town with him and that Mr. Golden replied that he was not going all the way; that he had something picked out; that Golden then recrossed to the north side of the street, going catcornered, and passed behind the Methodist church, between the church and Mr. Craghead's residence; that Mrs. Golden went around on the front of the church on the side walk, and that they met just north of the church and continued their way towards town, as above described. That when they returned towards the Methodist church they lingered in that vicinity looking for the possible appearance of the author of the letter; that later they crossed the street going south and hid behind a coal house; that they saw a man coming down the street, pass around the corner of the church and go into Thomas Craghead's residence and turn on the light; that Mrs. Golden then went back to the church and sat down on the church steps. Mr. Golden remained behind the coal house; that presently Mr. Craghead came around the corner of the church from the direction of his home, passed Mrs. Golden a few steps, turned and said "You are out kind-a late, ain't you," and that she replied "I surely am," and then he asked her "Are you looking for somebody," and that she replied, "I don't know," that Mr. Craghead then said something else which was not understood by Mrs. Golden, and that the next she remembers him saying was "Let's go over to the house," and that she replied "So you are the one that caused all this trouble, are you," Mr. Golden testified that from his position behind the coal house, which witnesses who measured the distance testified was

BISHOP GETS A HUNG JURY IN SECOND TRIAL

First Ballot 6 and 6 And So On Till
End After 48 Hours.

Although out on their deliberations for forty-eight hours, the jury in the case of John Bishop charged with the murder of Ike Wilson, failed to agree upon a verdict and returned to open court Saturday morning, and were discharged by Judge March.

According to Foreman Clarence Walden the first ballot was six for conviction and six for acquittal, and so it stood until it was seen that agreement was not possible. There was no alternate ground nor room for a compromise verdict as the Court's instruction made it mandatory that the jury find the defendant guilty of murder or acquit him. Some of the jurors, it is reported, who maintained steadfastly to the acquittal principle, would have agreed upon a manslaughter verdict.

The jury in the case is as follows: E. J. McNeal, Albany; J. Ed Williams, Bennington; Wesley Cook, Durant; W. S. Mullens, Caddo; Carol M. Franks, Caddo; Henry Thomas, Calera; S. M. Hollingworth, Bokchito; L. M. French, Durant; Chas. Boston; H. C. Campbell, Durant; J. C. Walden, Durant; T. E. Wells, Durant.

In the first trial Bishop was sentenced to ninety-nine years imprisonment. His attorneys, Utterback & MacDonald filed motion for a new trial, and the motion was sustained by the court.

CITY TO PLACE LIGHTS ON NORMAL LOOP STREETS

The City Council has voted to place electric street lights on Fifth and Sixth avenues out around what is known as the Normal Loop. The matter was brought to the council's attention by the Lions and Rotary clubs of the city. Since the streets making the loop were paved, many fine homes have been built in this addition and the street lights are a necessity.

one hundred and sixty feet from the south side of the Methodist church, that he heard Mr. Craghead say "You are out kind-a late, ain't you," and "Let's go over to the house." That after Mr. Craghead made the last statement above quoted, Mrs. Golden looked southward and saw Mr. Golden coming; that Mr. Craghead put his hands in his pocket and when Mr. Golden came up that Mr. Golden said "Tom, what have you done," and that Craghead replied "I ain't done nothing. I never wrote no letter." That at this time the two men were within five feet of each other. That Mr. Golden then remarked "Thomas, you must have," and that Mr. Craghead never said anything but jerked his hand out of his right pocket and raised it in a striking position; that Golden stepped backward a step and began firing and fired five shots. Neither Mrs. Golden nor Mr. Golden claim to have seen anything in Mr. Craghead's hand at the time he was shot.

This is a synopsis of all the testimony. There was very little dispute in the evidence between the state and the defendant as to the movements of the parties prior to the killing and there were no other eye witnesses as to what happened at the actual time of the killing.

There was a great deal of testimony of experts on handwriting introduced to prove that the handwriting of the letter in question was that of Mr. Craghead, and on the other hand to prove that it was not. In fact, about a day and a half was taken up with this matter. The case was finished Wednesday noon and the jury instructed right after dinner and the argument of counsel followed. It is expected that the arguments will be finished tonight and the case turned over to the jury.

All the testimony showed that at the time Mr. Craghead was killed he had on his ordinary working clothes, that they were dirty and greasy, and that his hands and face were also dirty and greasy as though he had just left his garage work. The testimony showed that four bullets apparently went entirely through his body; that when the body was being laid out, after having been washed, etc., the parties in charge of it undertook to staunch the flow of blood by inserting cotton into the wounds; that one bullet seemed to have entered almost in the arm pit on the right hand side and came out near the arm pit on the left hand side; that when they undertook to pack those wounds with cotton, with the arms in a downward position, they were unable to do so, the holes in the skin not corresponding with the holes in the flesh, and it was only when they raised the arms up above his head that the holes in the skin corresponded with the holes in the flesh and they were able to insert the cotton packing.

THOUSANDS HERE FOR TRACK MEET

BIGGEST EVENT OF ITS KIND
EVER HELD IN SOUTHEAST-
ERN OKLAHOMA. HOMES OPEN
TO GUESTS.

As the News goes to press, the city is being literally flooded with youngsters from all over seventeen southeastern Oklahoma counties, here for the annual S. E. Oklahoma Inter-High School track meet, held here each year under the auspices of the Teacher's College. Just what the attendance will run is an unknown quantity today, but comparing the first days influx of guests with that of former years, it is safe to say there will be two thousand visiting pupils in the city for the week's events.

The people of Durant, as is their custom have opened their homes for the entertainment of the guests, and it seems evident that all visitors will be properly cared for.

The schedule of events is as follows:

Thursday, April 13
Girls Glee Clubs' Boys Quartette and Orchestra Contest, 8 P. M.

Friday, April 14
Tennis Preliminaries begin at 8 A. M. County Spelling Match 2 P. M. Piano, Declamation, Reading and Violin Preliminaries begin at 2 P. M. Violin, Piano, Declamation and Reading finals 8 P. M.

Saturday, April 15
Tennis Finals begin at 8 A. M. Track and Field Meet begins at 1 P. M.

McAlester won the cup last year in Class A and brings it back this year to defend it and should they win it this year it will become their permanent property. Ardmore High School won the Orchestra Contest, Hugo the Girls Glee Club and Durant the Boys Quartettes.

The track meet Friday will be held in the American Legion Park on a five lap track. This is an advantage as the meet can be held close in.

JEAN P. DAY EXONERATED OVER SLAYING OF OFFICER

Holding that Jean P. Day, prominent attorney and oil man, was justified in the killing of Lieut. Col. Paul Ward Beck at the Day home in Oklahoma City Tuesday of last week, a Coroner's jury returned a verdict Saturday recommending that no charges be preferred against Day.

The crowded courtroom was silent as it heard the verdict read. Mr. and Mrs. Day displayed no emotion as it was made public, and after it had been read they arose. Mr. Day shook hands with Coroner McWilliams and the party walked slowly from the room without a word between them.

SEVENTEEN DEAD IN SERIES OF STORMS SATURDAY

Seventeen known dead more than eighty injured, and property loss that will amount into hundreds of thousands of dollars, is the toll of a series of tornadoes that swept through West Texas and Southern Oklahoma early Saturday morning.

The list of casualties reported are: Runnels County, near Rowena, nine dead and twenty injured.

Callahan County, near Baird, Tex., four dead, twenty injured.

Electra, Texas, one dead, several injured.

Lawton, Okla., two dead, seventeen injured.

Cleburne, Texas, one dead, one injured.

Dallas, five injured.

Caddo, Texas, six injured.

Breckenridge, Texas, three injured.

Graham, Texas, one injured.

Cisco, Texas, two injured.

Echo, Texas, six injured.

MANY RURAL SCHOOLS HAVE CLOSED FOR YEAR

Altogether twenty-nine rural schools have closed for the year in the county, according to a statement issued by the county superintendent's office. Schools already reported closed are, Matoy, Star, Needmore, Blue, Platter, Thomas Chapel, Blue Ribbon, Pearson, Prairie View, Fulsome Grove, Bray, Hackberry, Bethel, Barwick, Lone Oak, Finchtown, Cypress, Roberta, Jackson, Pirtle, New Allison, Risner, Williamson, Larin, Hatcher, Mulberry, Reams, Keirseay and Hawkes.

WINTON MURDER CASE TO COME UP THURSDAY

Immediately following the handing of the Golden case to the jury, Judge March called up the case of Alford Winton, charged with the murder of Debin Phillips, which killing occurred east of Bennington on February 5, this year.

PIONEER CITIZEN DIES HERE LAST SUNDAY NIGHT

J. D. Haynes Laid To Rest At High-
land Cemetery Monday.

After a period of poor health lasting over several years and culminating in pneumonia, J. D. Haynes, former merchant and pioneer citizen of Durant, died at the Memorial Hospital. He passed away on the sixty-first anniversary of his birth.

Funeral services were held Monday afternoon, conducted by Rev. Ed G. Butler, pastor of the Baptist Church, followed by interment in Highland cemetery. The Masons had charge of the services at the grave.

Joseph Davis Haynes was born April 9, 1861, at Pellville, Hancock County, Kentucky. At the age of eight years he united with the Baptist church, and since that time has been leading a devoted Christian life. He was united in marriage to Miss Sue Stanfield, on February 19, 1884, and to this union five children, two sons and three daughters were born, as follows: Willie, of Spokane, Washington; Mrs. Winnie Griggs, of Tulsa; Mrs. Nellie Hoffman, of Phoenix, Arizona; Mrs. Helen Mayhugh, of Oklahoma City; and Prof. Harold Haynes, of Hugo. Besides the wife and children, he is survived by three brothers and five sisters.

The family moved from Kentucky to Durant in January, 1904, and have made this city their home, and the deceased was beloved and esteemed by everyone.

Mr. Haynes was a pioneer citizen of Durant, being engaged in the mercantile business between 1904 and 1916, when he retired from active business. He was a man of cheery disposition and ready smile, and had an admirable habit of trying to cheer up the downcast and encourage the sorrowful. He was loved by a large circle of friends, who will miss him in their daily rounds.

2,221 IN SUNDAY SCHOOL HERE LAST SUNDAY

Last Sunday was the second biggest Sunday School attendance in the history of Durant, the total being 2,224. The figures by Sunday Schools and Bible classes are as follows:

Church	Att.
Methodist	530
Baptist	524
Christian	354
Presbyterian	349
Church of Christ	165
Nazarine	147
Grace Methodist	80
East Presbyterian	75
Totals	2,224
Baptist men	115
Women	71
Methodist men	98
Women	83
Christian men	77
Women	46
Presbyterian men	56
Women	56
Church of Christ men	32
Women	28

UTICA, ACHILLE AND COLBERT SCHOOLS ARE ACCREDITED

County Superintendent Cunningham has just received a report from State High School Inspector C. M. Howell, advising that he has accredited Utica, Achille and Colbert schools. This is a total of ten accredited schools in Bryan county. Each school which the county superintendent has asked for has been accredited.

MANUFACTURING IS CHARGED
Deputy Sheriff G. C. Jones and J. W. Allen of near Yuba, caught two young men named Brock in the act of making moonshine, so they assert. Both are under arrest charged with manufacturing.

JAUNITA POWELL DEAD

Jaunita, the eight months and a half old baby daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jno. Powell, died Sunday morning at the home of its grand parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Barry 307 North 8th. Funeral services were held Sunday afternoon by Rev. E. G. Butler, and the body was laid to rest in the old cemetery. The father is in the government hospital, at Sanatorium, Texas, and was not able to be home.

TWO PLEAS OF GUILTY

Hugh Peterman and John Needham entered pleas of guilty before Judge Finney, to transporting and each was sentenced to serve thirty days in jail and pay a \$50 fine. Both are in jail.

AD GOT THE MAN

A Battle Creek, Mich., shoe dealer bought 25,000 pairs of army shoes, sold 24,999 pair and found himself left with a single pair, size 15 EE, which took up so much room in his store that he advertised the man who could wear them might have them. A Mr. Gary drove across Kalamazoo County to try them on and took them altho they were a trifle tight. And this is only one of the miracles advertising performs daily.